

COMMUNITY UPDATE

October 2026

FPX Nickel



A MESSAGE FROM OUR

Director of Indigenous and Community Affairs

This edition is all about people, partnerships, and community. From helping families stay active through free public skating programs in Fort St. James, Vanderhoof, and Fraser Lake, to supporting Indigenous students on their education journey, FPX Nickel is proud to invest in opportunities that make a difference close to home.

We're excited to share the story of Maggie Korolyk, a member of Takla Nation and recipient of the FPX Nickel Indspire Empowered Pathways Award. As a university student and single mother, Maggie has shown incredible determination in pursuing her goals while supporting her family. Her story highlights how educational support can help open doors and create opportunities for the future.

This issue also features Indigenous Companies as key partners leading environmental studies for the Baptiste Project. Through local hiring, Indigenous partnerships, and the use of regional businesses and services, we're working to create jobs, build skills, and support economic growth in northern communities.

Together, these stories show what can be achieved when communities, businesses, and individuals work together. We hope you enjoy learning more about the people and programs helping build a stronger future for our region.

Cheers,
Claudette Gouger

Baptiste Project Update

Since entering the Environmental Assessment process in January 2026, the team has been busy reviewing the comments on the project and responding to questions we heard during our public comment period. The EA process started with an Initial Project Description (IPD), and the feedback and comments we have received reflect community priorities, and the expertise and knowledge found within the region are helping design a better project. The next steps of the EA process are to submit a detailed project description (DPD) in summer 2027. The DPD supports BC and Canada in establishing the scope, methods, information requirements, and engagement approach for the environmental assessment application. At the same time, we will be responding to all the comments received to date through the EA process.

In April, Baptiste was named as a major priority project by the Government of British Columbia. This recognition comes as part of the development of B.C.'s Look West economic strategy, with the province identifying Baptiste as a major priority project to support its progress.

Over the summer, our teams were in the project area to continue building our body of knowledge through baseline studies and deepen our understanding of climate, stream flows, geochemistry and groundwater. Environmental baseline studies have been ongoing since 2011 and have expanded over the last few years to include programs in areas such as climate, stream flows and surface water quality, fish and aquatics, wildlife and vegetation, socio-economics, paleontology and archaeology.



Monitoring station at the Baptiste project area, July 2026



Introducing our New Director of Indigenous and Community Affairs

We're excited to welcome Claudette Gouger as FPX Nickel's new Director of Indigenous and Community Affairs. With more than 23 years of experience in Northern BC, Claudette has worked closely with communities, organizations, and industry partners in the areas of mining, public affairs, community engagement, training, and employment.

Through her career in both mining and post-secondary education, Claudette has developed strong connections across the region and a deep commitment to creating opportunities for people and communities. She looks forward to building relationships, listening, learning, and supporting the Baptiste Project's vision of creating long-term, sustainable benefits that can be felt for generations to come.



FEATURE

Empowering Education Pathways Through the Indspire Award

Indspire
Indigenous education, Canada's future. | L'éducation des autochtones. L'avenir du Canada.

For Maggie Korolyk, a third-year student at the University of British Columbia, the FPX Nickel Indspire Empowered Pathways Award has been more than financial assistance. It has provided stability, encouragement, and the opportunity to focus on achieving her educational and personal goals.

A mature student, single mother of two, and member of the Takla Nation, Maggie is pursuing studies in First Nations and Indigenous Studies with minors in Political Science and First Nations Endangered Languages. Her long-term goal is to complete a master's degree focused on Indigenous policy and work alongside Indigenous communities to develop solutions that reflect their unique needs and priorities.

Balancing full-time studies with the responsibilities of parenting has not been easy. Maggie's children require additional supports, and she has faced significant personal challenges while continuing her education. The award has helped ease financial pressures, allowing her to focus on her coursework, maintain a strong GPA, and ensure her children have access to the services and opportunities they need to thrive.

"Having that financial cushion has been significant in our lives," Maggie shared. The support she received demonstrates the lasting impact that educational funding can have, not only on students, but on their families and communities.

Through determination, resilience, and a commitment to giving back, Maggie is creating a path toward meaningful change for future generations.

Since 2024 FPX has been proud to support students from area First Nations in their post-secondary studies through the FPX Indspire Empowered Pathways Award. The award program accepts applications three times a year: November 1, February 1 and August 1. You can learn more and apply here: https://indspirefunding.ca/fpx-nickel/

"Having that financial cushion has been significant in our lives."

- Maggie Korolyk, Takla Nation

Apply for the award

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Mercedes Steeves and Sierra Collins collecting baseline data, summer 2026.



Siefu Jemal reading data, summer 2026.

CONTRACTOR PROFILE

Sasuchan Environmental LP Investing in Local People and Stronger Communities

FPX is focused on creating local opportunities as we advance the Baptiste Nickel Project, and together with Sasuchan Environmental LP and Shas-Ti Environmental LP we are making it happen.

Since 2022, Sasuchan Environment LP (SELP). a partnership between Sasuchan Development Corporation and EDI Environmental Dynamics Inc., has supported environmental baseline studies for the FPX Nickel Baptiste Project, helping collect critical groundwater, surface water, climate, and hydrology data that is informing project planning and environmental assessment activities.

SELP works alongside Shas-Ti and local environmental technicians from nearby First Nation communities, providing hands-on field experience and opportunities to build skills in environmental monitoring and data collection. Local Indigenous employees play an active role in collecting environmental data, conducting fieldwork, and supporting ongoing studies that help guide project planning.

During the 2025 field program, more than 80% of project spending went to local businesses and service providers, demonstrating FPX Nickel's commitment to keeping economic benefits within the region and supporting local jobs, businesses, and communities.

For Project Manager Mary Ann Middleton, who grew up in the Takla region, the work is about more than environmental science. It is an opportunity to bring local knowledge, relationships, and community values into project development while helping create employment, training, and long-term economic opportunities for northern communities connected to the FPX Nickel Baptiste Project.

By investing in local talent and partnering with other Indigenous businesses, SELP, through their work on the Baptiste Project, is helping build a skilled local workforce, support family incomes, and create lasting economic benefits. These efforts contribute to stronger, more resilient communities while ensuring local knowledge and perspectives remain an important part of responsible project development.

FPX Nickel is committed to making sure that our project activities bring long-term benefits to local communities. Interested in adding your business to our local business registry? Stop by our office or reach out to: community@fpxnickel.com.

COMING SOON

Next issue's Contrator Profile will feature **Shas-Ti Environment LP**

Did You Know?

The **Baptiste Nickel Project** is located approximately 80km northwest of Fort St. James. The Project, including portions of the transmission line and access route, are within the territories of the Binche Whut'en, Lake Babine Nation, Nadleh Whut'en, Nak'azdli Whut'en, Stellat'en First Nation, Takla Nation, Tl'azt'en Nation, and Yekooche First Nation.

Nickel and **cobalt** are essential materials used in electric vehicle batteries and other low-carbon technologies. FPX Nickel's proposed awaruite refinery could produce enough battery-grade nickel to support approximately 450,000 electric vehicles annually. A 2025 study also estimates that nickel sulphate produced from awaruite could have an exceptionally low carbon footprint of approximately 1.4 tonnes of CO_2 per tonne of nickel, including mining, processing and refining.

The nickel at Baptiste is found in the mineral called "awaruite"-Ni3Fe. This mineral allows for production of a high-grade nickel concentrate through magnetic separation, and **does not require smelting**. This reduces energy consumption and carbon emissions and is a significant differentiator for Baptiste as compared to traditional nickel sources.

Annual nickel production from Baptiste would be **approximately 60,000 tonnes per year**, which is an increase of **more than 40%** from Canada's current annual production.

Baptiste would generate approximately **$20 million per year** in municipal taxes, **$200 million annually** in provincial taxes, and contribute an estimated **$45 billion** to Canada's gross domestic product over its life.

The Project would support creation of stable, high quality, high-paying jobs: over **three decades of operations**, the Project is expected to sustain about **1,000 direct jobs** and **3,200 indirect jobs** for 30 years.

Open House and Community Appreciation BBQ

On October 2 we hosted an open house and community appreciation bbq at our Fort St James community office. The event, catered by Fort St James Search and Rescue, was a way to thank community members. and partners for their ongoing support in helping move the Baptiste Project forward. Over 150 people joined us to share a meal, meet the team, and learn more about the project.



FPX Community Appreciation BBQ



Fort St James Primary Care Society Donation supports improving healthcare in Fort St James



Baptiste Project Area Map



FPX Open House



Fort St James Search and Rescue Donation to support local rescue efforts



FPX Fort St. James Office

* Photos by Taylor Hansen Photography

SPOTLIGHT

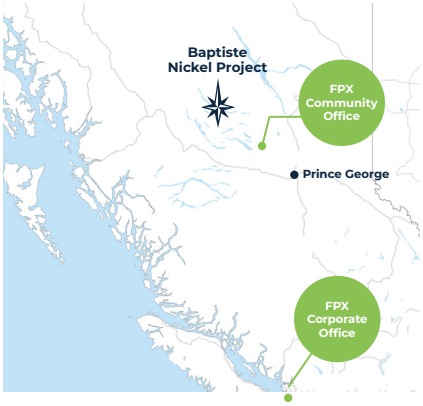
Community Investment Program

Public Skate Programs

FPX Nickel is proud to support public skating programs in Fort St. James, Vanderhoof and Fraser Lake. These programs encourage active living and inclusion by offering no-cost access to skating, drop-in hockey, and parent and tot sessions.

CONTACT US

If you have a program or opportunity for consideration, please reach out to our community staff in person at our Community Office or by email at: community@fpxnickel.com



Questions?

If you have any questions about the information in this update, or about the Baptiste Nickel Project, please find us online at: www.fpxnickel.com and baptisteproject.com.

Follow us for updates on FPX Nickel and the Baptiste Project.

Facebook
www.facebook.com/FPXNickel

LinkedIn
www.linkedin.com/company/fpx-nickel-corp

Community Office

Stop by to say hello and get an update on the Baptiste Project during our Fort St. James Community Office hours Fridays from 10-3 pm.

Find Us
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Phone Us 604.416.4666

Email Us community@fpxnickel.com

Get the FPX Newsletter

fpxnickel.com/community/newsletter